

**MARYLAND MEDICAID ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**DATE:** Thursday, May 28, 2020  
**TIME:** 1:00 - 3:00 p.m.  
**LOCATION:** Maryland Department of Health

Due to COVID-19, this meeting will be held through WebEx-teleconference only.

**To Join By WebEx:**

<https://mdhealth.webex.com/mdhealth/k2/j.php?MTID=tbe8c61f334bfdc839c11b0b1e6c1fd09>

Session number: 613 898 185

Session password: AByDsYiP359

**To Join By Phone:**

U.S. Toll: 1-415-655-0001

Access code: 613 898 185

Those who would like to make public comment should email Edward Miller at, [EdwardJ.Miller@maryland.gov](mailto:EdwardJ.Miller@maryland.gov) or use the WebEx chat feature to submit questions to the host.

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**AGENDA**

- I. Departmental Report
  - a. 2020 HealthChoice Post-Award Forum Announcement
- II. Update by the Health Benefit Exchange on QHP Special Enrollment – (Heather Forsythe)
- III. HIE COVID-19 Response Efforts – (Craig Behm)
- IV. Vaccinations during COVID-19 – (Lisa Burgess)
- V. Waiver, State Plan and Regulations Changes
- VI. Public Comments
- VII. Adjournment

**Date of Next Meeting:**  
**Thursday, June 25, 2020, 1:00 – 3:00 p.m.**  
**Staff Contact: Mr. Edward J. Miller - (443) 944-7687**  
[EdwardJ.Miller@maryland.gov](mailto:EdwardJ.Miller@maryland.gov)

**MARYLAND MEDICAID ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
MINUTES**

**April 23, 2020**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Ms. Jessica Dickerson  
Ms. Shannon Hall  
Mr. Floyd Hartley  
Ms. Vickie Walters  
Ms. Linda Dietsch  
Ms. Maansi Raswant  
Rachel Dodge, M.D.  
Winifred Booker, D.D.S  
Adeteju Ogunrinde, M.D  
The Hon. Joseline Peña-Melnyk  
Mr. Kenneth Garove  
Ms. Marie McLendon  
Ms. Robin Moore  
The Hon. Matthew Morgan  
Mr. Ben Steffen  
Mr. Vincent DeMarco  
Ms. Isabella Firth

**MEMBERS ABSENT:**

The Hon. Antonio Hayes  
Ms. Anna Sierra  
Ms. Nicole McCann  
Mr. William Webb  
Kathryn Fiddler, DNP  
The Hon. Pat Young

## Maryland Medicaid Advisory Committee

April 23, 2020

### **Call to Order and Approval of Minutes**

Ms. Vickie Walters, Chair, called to order the meeting of the Maryland Medicaid Advisory Committee (MMAC) at 1:05 p.m. Committee members approved the minutes from the March 23, 2020 meeting as written.

### **Departmental Report**

Ms. Tricia Roddy, Director, Office of Innovation, Research and Development, reported that the Medicaid program continues to operate with the majority of staff off-site and essential employees only on-site. The Department is continuing to pay claims and is working with partners to continue to enroll people, get the necessary federal waivers and approvals to make sure there is not disruption of service and to decrease administrative burden for providers. You can find past executive orders and administrative directives at:

<https://health.maryland.gov/mdpcp/Pages/Coronavirus>

The Department worked with the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) simultaneously while implementing waivers. The Department received approvals of an 1135 waiver and one of our two Appendix K waivers. The Appendix K waiver for our Developmental Disabilities Administration (DDA) programs was approved this morning. We are hoping that the Appendix K waiver for the other home and community-based waiver programs is approved in the next day or two.

The Department received approval of a disaster state plan amendment (SPA) to suspend premiums, to implement telehealth, pay family members, and to contract commercial ambulance providers. All these waivers and SPAs are posted on our website.

The Department continues to have close communication with CMS enabling CMS to quickly respond to concerns and requests. CMS is working with states to implement the maintenance of effort requirement. This requirement is tied to receiving an increase of 6.2 percentage points in our (Federal Medicaid Assistant Percentage (FMAP) with CMS. States are required to ensure no one loses eligibility during this federal emergency. The Department continues to monitor enrollment on a weekly basis.

Due to COVID-19, many individuals are not seeking treatment from providers. Maryland and other states have implemented telehealth to encourage individuals to continue seeking care from providers. But providers continue to express concerns that revenues are down and have asked for retainer payments or advance payments. CMS has approved retainer payments for Medicaid providers who provide personal care or habilitative services. Retainer payments allow Medicaid programs to pay providers for services that were not delivered in order to ensure that the provider continues to operate during the state of emergency. Maryland Medicaid has approval to pay certain retainer payments under its Appendix K waivers. A letter was sent to CMS from the

National Association of Medicaid Directors. The letter requests CMS all advance payments under Medicaid CMS has been clear in its communication that it does not intend to approve retainer payments beyond personal care or habilitative services. Other Medicaid providers should take advantage of the other sources of federal monies under the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act.

### **HealthChoice Quality**

Ms. Monchel Pridget, Deputy Director, Managed Care Administration, gave the Committee an overview of the 2019 HealthChoice Quality Assurance activities conducted by the Maryland Department of Health (see attached presentation).

### **State of Emergency Update – Medicaid Waivers**

Committee members were presented with information related to the recently approved provisions for Maryland's eight (8) 1915(c) waiver programs and highlights from the Appendix K waiver application.

### **Waiver, State Plan and Regulation Changes**

Ms. Molly Marra, Director, Medicaid Provider Services, gave the Committee a status update on waivers, regulations and state plan amendment changes.

**Regulations** – Five of six regulations have notices of final actions. Changes to the regulation for the HCBS waiver for children with Autism has not been finally approved.

**State Plan Amendments** (SPAs) – There were two disaster SPAs and one clean up SPA for family planning.

**Waivers** – There are several COVID-19 waivers currently going through the process.

### **Public Comments**

There were no public comments.

### **Adjournment**

Ms. Walters adjourned the meeting at 2:30 p.m.